

## UE Goes to Albany to Fight for Aid to Disabled, Jobless Workers

A UE Local 301 committee and McCarthy's one-man "committee" happened to come to Albany in the same week.

Some coincidence — and what a contrast!

The UE committee headed by Board Member William Stewart was in the capital during the first part of the week to see about getting some action on bills to increase unemployment compensation and improve disability laws.

While UE representatives were button-holing legislators on improving the state's coverage for unemployed and disabled workers, the unemployment situation in McCarthy's home state of Wisconsin was reported as being the worst since 1936.

But Jumping Joe wasn't in Albany for the good of the unemployed or of working people anywhere.

The UE legislative committee in making the rounds of the capital corridors was encouraged by the fact that it had already helped score an outstanding victory in the passage of the Manning-Runfola Bill increasing compensation for job injuries from \$32

to \$36 a week and in raising the industrial compensation allotments for widows.

Stewart who is chairman of the UE Local 301 legislative committee has high hopes of this year getting legislation to pay for partial disability due to silicosis. At present, silicosis victims are compensated only if totally disabled or, as a prominent jurist put it, "when he has coughed himself to death."

In the Senate the silicosis bill S-537 is sponsored by Thomas Campbell, a former GE worker who says he hoted to go into the GE foundry because of the condition of the air.

The companion bill in the assembly was introduced by Anthony J. Travia.

The Legislative Committee is also making a big push on S-888 by Senator DeOptatis to increase unemployment insurance benefit minimums from \$10 a week to \$16 and from the present maximum of \$30 to \$36. Another unemployment insurance bill (S-412) liberalizes allowances for dependents.

All are urged to call upon their state representatives to support these bills.



## UE Locals Join To Hit GE-McCarthyism

## Thousands At Plant Meetings

(Continued from Page 1)

In a full page ad entitled "McCarthyism Is Treason to America" 18 UE locals throughout the state hit the GE-McCarthy conspiracy against union conditions.

The ad declared in part: "It is no accident that as the General Electric steps up its nation-wide program of job moving, layoffs, short-time, speed-up, wage cutting, down-grading and seniority violations, Senator McCarthy announces an 'investigation' not of General Electric but of unions and their members."

"At the very time that the U. S. Government reports that two million more jobless workers and their families have been reduced to a depression way of life, McCarthy's committee claims to be looking into non-existent espionage and sabotage."

"McCarthy comes on the eve of national negotiations between UE and the General Electric Co., not to obtain anti-depression guarantees but to disrupt negotiations."

"Before GE went all out for McCarthyism to bust its unions, GE Vice President L. R. Boulware told a Congressional Committee that charges of espionage and sabotage in GE are completely unfounded. He is quoted in official government transcripts as saying that GE workers 'are very carefully examined . . . individual workers work on very small components of a whole thing'."

the two UE officers to be subpoenaed by the Wisconsin politician for his militant handling of grievances.

Approximately 1500 turbine workers jammed in front of Turbine Building 273 to hear reports from Vice-President Joe Alois, Treasurer Joseph Whitbeck and past president, William Kelly.

Still other protest meetings were held at Campbell Avenue, and the Race Track plant. Building trades workers met in Building 107 with Executive Board member Vincent Palazke. Workers in the front part of the plant heard Board Member Neil Dube.

Classes for 2nd shift shop stewards will begin Feb. 24 for all except 2nd shift turbine stewards whose classes will start March 3. All stewards' classes begin promptly at 1:00 P.M.

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ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

# ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

THE VOICE OF THE UNITED ELECTRICAL, RADIO & MACHINE WORKERS OF AMERICA UE LOCAL 301

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SCHENECTADY, NEW YORK

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## OUTSIDERS AGAIN TRY TO SPLIT OUR RANKS

### Local Group Heads For U. S. Capital

Delegates from UE Local 301 will join UE delegates from all over the country this Sunday in Washington, D. C., for two days of lobbying against GE's Butler Bill and Goldwater-Rhodes bills.

The GE-backed legislation would establish the Nazi-style system of licensing unions approved by employers and outlawing the rest.

Congressmen will be urged to support instead, measures to reduce taxes on working people, improve social security and combat depression.

UE 301 delegates are William Stewart, chairman of the local's legislative committee; Larry Gebro and James De Maseo, Executive Board members. Helen Quirini will represent UE District No. 3. The new Mica Insulator local will also send delegates.

Petitions against the Butler bill signed by thousands of GE workers in Schenectady will be filed with Congress by the local delegation.

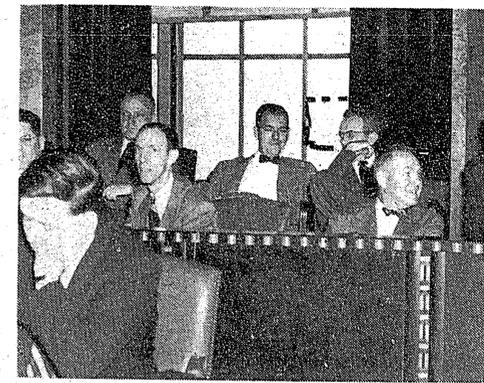
### Raises Needed To Block Depression

As GE stock last week jumped \$2.50 a share for an all-time high, layoffs and price-chiselling continued to undermine purchasing power. (Latest news from GE Lynn is that 2,000 are out on the street.)

Coming negotiations with Westinghouse and other concerns will play an important part in determining whether disaster will overtake our national economy.

Labor needs substantial wage increases and a shorter base work week not only to improve living standards and keep working but to head the country away from depression.

McCarthy will not run this Union, nor will we be moved by those of our people who unconsciously have been duped by IUE into circulating petitions that disregard procedures set forth in our constitution and by-laws, Leo Jandrou, Business Agent of U.E. Local 301 said at union headquarters today.



GE, THE JURY—High GE officials were in the jury box in the Federal court room in Albany to watch their man, McCarthy, perform as prosecutor of union leaders. Man with hand to his face (above) is William Barron, GE's chief lawyer who with top labor relations man Boulware is lobbying in Washington for the Butler and Goldwater-Rhodes bills. Company men in front row seats (below are left-to-right: Charles LaForge, chief security officer; Russel White, Security Coordinator and D. L. Sorenson of Employee and Plant Relations.



Last week's Albany hearings have made a few of our people vulnerable to mob rule as a means to an end. This can easily be traced to outside influences that have never helped build our Union or helped a single worker in trouble on his job.

The petition goes further than scrapping our constitutional union procedures — it outdoes the G.E. policy of giving 90 days with pay to victims in order that they may prove themselves innocent. Here is the meaning of the petition which is making the rounds of some buildings:

In its slavish praise for McCarthy, the petition repudiates the official position of American labor:

"McCarthyism is a subversion of American principles", George Meaney, Pres. of A. F. of L.

"McCarthyism is ugly, un-American and immoral" — Walter Reuther, Pres. of C. I. O.

Some supporters of the petition do not realize the full impact of the G.E. policy governing discharge of employees who appear before committees. This policy is not concerned with the record of the individual, with regard to espionage, sabotage or membership in the Communist Party. G.E. now says you are fired if you refuse to talk and answer questions concerning your fellow employees and their activities. Questions about others do not have to deal with sabotage or espionage or political affiliation. The questions can be about anything.

No decent American can accept this as a condition of employment. The supporters of the petition are unknown.

(Continued on Page 4)

Petition to Congress

### TO PROTECT OUR JOBS — KEEP OUR UNIONS FREE!

Defeat the Butler-Miller and Goldwater-Rhodes Bills

**A DRIVE BY Big Business** is under way to deprive workers of their freedom to choose their own union and union officers. Big Business weapons in this attack are the Butler-Miller and Goldwater-Rhodes bills to set up government licensing and control over unions.

These proposals are opposed by all unions — CIO, AFL and Independent. They are backed by the National Assn. of Manufacturers, the Chamber of Commerce and giant corporations like General Electric, Westinghouse, International Harvester, etc.

Today, as millions of American workers are jobless, we believe that Congress should pass legislation guaranteeing full employment, and a higher standard of living, and which would destroy the democratic right of workers to choose and run their own unions. Only democratic unions, one truly fight in the interests of the workers.

The anti-union side of these proposals cannot be hidden. Under cover of "anti-union" bills, these bills guarantee employment, and will higher profits through lower wages and speed-up.

We urge you to fight and defeat these vicious anti-labor proposals.

NAME \_\_\_\_\_ CITY \_\_\_\_\_

UE United Electrical, Radio and Machine Workers of America (UE)

## Photos of the GE-McCarthy Hearings



**VALENTINE**—As hundreds waited in the corridors for the court house doors to open, the tie-in between McCarthy and GE management found expression in a hastily lettered sign.



**INFORMER**—Jean Arsenault, whose unsupported word was McCarthy's smear ammunition in the Albany hearings, worked for GE here for eight months as a janitor. He was fired for falsifying his pre-employment statement, specifically that portion which deals with membership in the Communist Party and overthrow of the U.S. government. The penalty is five years in the Federal penitentiary. So Arsenault will swear to anything McCarthy wants him to, or else — five years!

### GE Denies McCarthy Tie

GE management has absolutely nothing to do with Mr. McCarthy's "investigations" of the "loyalty" of GE workers. Manager Stevens protests in an article spread clear across the top of page 1 of last Friday's GE Schenectady News. It is "absolutely untrue," says Stevens, that GE is attacking the union or doing any "behind-the-scenes directing of the committee's work".

Is the company suddenly ashamed to acknowledge its association with McCarthy? It wasn't so long ago that company officials made no secret of their "behind-the-scenes" meetings with McCarthy.

Wasn't it after meetings with Stevens and GE security chief LaForge which were reported in the press that McCarthy in a Boston hearing "demanded" GE fire anyone who uses the Fifth Amendment and didn't GE do just that in Lynn where the IUE-CIO is the bargaining agent? And didn't McCarthy then come to Albany to set the stage for the same thing in Schenectady where UE is the bargaining union?



**JANDREAU**—Business Agt. Leo Jandreau shown reading to the press a sworn statement by Jean Arsenault which shows the self-styled ex-Communist and undercover agent to be a perjurer. Jandreau was subpoenaed by McCarthy but the smearing senator from Wisconsin thought best to leave Albany without calling him to the stand.

### W'house Locals Blast GE Policy

Representatives of 20,000 Westinghouse employees last week blasted GE's new labor policy as "an open attack on the basic Constitutional guarantees of all citizens" as well as upon unions and union conditions.

Meeting at UE national headquarters in New York City to draw up contract demands, UE delegates from 15 Westinghouse plants stated: "By a selective firing of active and militant workers, GE evidently hopes to terrorize its employees, to deprive them of leadership, to destroy their organization and to render them helpless."

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**DECENCY**—Mrs. Northrup, wife of one of the witnesses, shown with one of her three young children immediately after she had demanded in ringing angry tones if McCarthy had "any decency". A burly policeman and a marshal stand by to make sure she does not ask McCarthy any more questions.



**LOCKOUT**—GE workers trying vainly to get into the courtroom through a side door after GE executives, college kids and state employees were led to the choice seats.

ELECTRICAL UNION NEWS

### Innocent 'till Proven Guilty

## Church Leaders Score GE-McCarthy Policies

Directors of the Schenectady County Council of Churches have addressed a letter to their member churches expressing "profound concern" over GE's so-called loyalty program and the implications of last week's McCarthy hearings.

The letter which was drawn up by the Council's Social Education and Action Committee for study by the churches.

McCarthy's interpretation of the Fifth Amendment, the churchmen found, "tends to make it all too easy for the public to infer that silence means guilt; to confuse dissent with treason; and to lose sight of the American principle of justice that the burden of proof is not on the accused, and that a man is innocent until proven guilty."

Turning to GE's new policy that employees who invoke the Fifth Amendment will be given 90 days to clear themselves, the letter stated:

"In regard to the Fifth

Amendment policy of the General Electric Co. we believe that while recognizing the sincerity of intent, it too is a means that could eat at the vitals of the freedom it seeks to shield. Specifically it tends to obscure that great principle referred to above, that the citizen is innocent until proven guilty."

These methods have some parallel with the results obtained by historic inquisitions and the courts of modern totalitarian states, the church letter declared. "They invade at will the shrine of conscience and private judgment."

Signing the letter were the Rev. Jack Cooper, chairman; Mrs. Phillips Bosworth, Mrs. George Gardner, Luther Smith, the Rev. Robert Thomas, the Rev. Norman Thomas and Paul Benjamin, ex-officio member of the committee. The full text of the letter was carried in the Schenectady Union-Star of Feb. 23.

## UE 301 Files New Compliance Data

The non-Communist affidavits of all UE Local 301 officers and a financial statement as required by Taft-Hartley were forwarded to the National Labor Relations Board on Feb. 18.

These affidavits have been signed each year since 1949. The financial statement follows:

United Electrical Radio & Machine Workers of America Local 301	
Financial Report for Year From January 1 to December 31, 1953	
RECEIPTS	
Dues .....	\$487,115.95
Initiation Fees .....	4,528.00
Other Income .....	368.56
<b>Total Income .....</b>	<b>\$492,012.51</b>
DISBURSEMENTS	
Per Capita Tax .....	\$172,055.55
Salaries and Allowances .....	73,193.15
Time Lost Reimbursed to Members .....	91,978.28
Taxes .....	3,460.71
Administrative Expenses .....	21,230.04
Organizational Expenses .....	37,804.38
Contributions .....	4,392.50
<b>Total Expenses .....</b>	<b>\$403,114.71</b>
<b>Total Assets at End of the Year .....</b>	<b>\$179,205.91</b>
<b>Total Liabilities at End of the Year .....</b>	<b>23,407.63</b>

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